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Your Reference: 09/270,111
Our Reference: 5562-769

August 8, 2000

RESPONSE AFTER FINAL

The Commissioner of Patents
& Trademarks
Washington, D.C.
U.S.A. 20231

Dear Sir:

Re: U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/270,111
Group No. 1724
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CONCENTRATING A GAS USING A SINGLE
STAGE ADSORPTION ZONE
Filed: March 16, 1999
Applicant: Conrad et al.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to amend the application as follows:

in the Claims:

16. A pressure swing adsorption apparatus for producing an enriched stream of a first fluid from a stream containing the first fluid and at least one second fluid, the apparatus comprising:

- (a) means for reversibly adsorbing the at least one second fluid to produce the enriched stream;
- (b) pressurizable storage means for receiving at least a portion of the enriched stream;
- (c) outlet means in flow communication with the storage means for venting at least a portion of the enriched stream from the apparatus;
- (d) purging means for removing at least a portion of the at least one second fluid from the means for reversibly adsorbing the at least one second fluid during a purging cycle; and,
- (e) mechanical actuating means operably associated with the purging means for actuating the purging cycle upon the pressurizable storage means reaching a preset pressure.

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